

ROY THOMAS, RICK HOBERG & BILL COLLINS



IT HAD TO
HAPPEN!
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BLITZKRIEG!

ALL-STAR SQUADRON

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JULY 84
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THE NEW

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STOPPING
US NOW.

IN THIS ISSUE:
AN **ALL-STAR**
DIES!

R. HOBERG &
G. ORFAY

6-708

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A STRANGE SIGHT, INDEED, FOR THE DECKS OF A JAPANESE WARSHIP AMID THE CARNAGE OF WORLD WAR TWO-- EVEN FOR THE WORLD WHICH WILL ONE DAY BE KNOWN AS EARTH-X:

THE AMERIKANER SWINE ARE DEFEATED! TAKE THEM AWAY, MEIN FREUND!

HEIL HITLER!

YET, IF YOU THINK THIS SCENE OF THE CONQUERED HOURMAN, UNCLE SAM, AND OTHER FREEDOM FIGHTERS IS WEIRD...

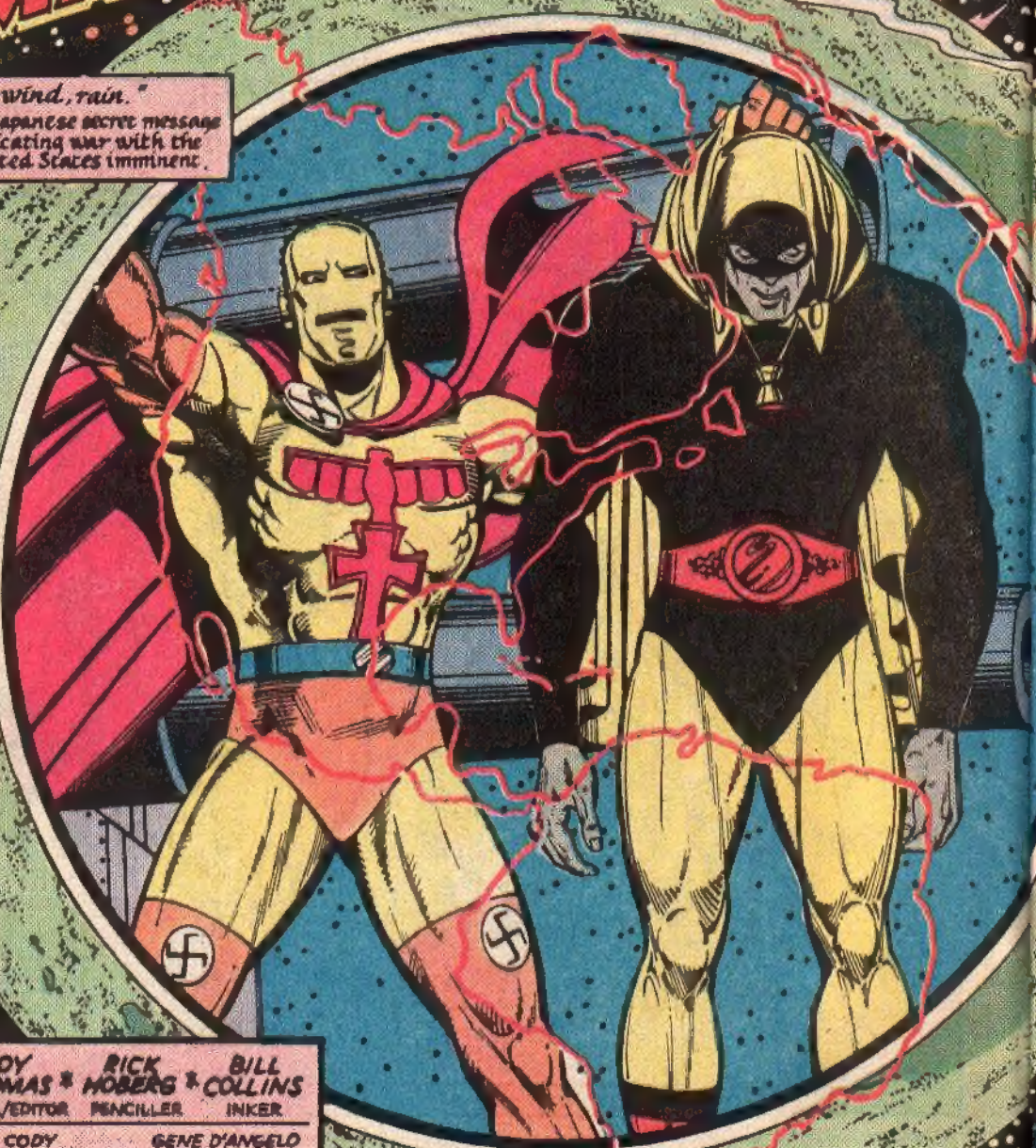
...TRY PULLING BACK A DIMENSION OR TWO TO SEE HOW EARTH-X AND A SECOND EARTH WHICH DUPLICATES IT UPON ANOTHER PLANE, ARE KEPT FROM COLLIDING ONLY BY THE SHEER, STUBBORN PSYCHIC MIGHT OF AN UNDEAD HERO WHOM MEN CALL THE SPECTRE!

THAT EARTHS MAY LIVE!

ALMIGHTY! MUST TWIN WORLDS PERISH, BECAUSE 'T FRAYED TOO THIN THE FRAGILE FABRIC OF THE MANY-LEVELED MULTIVERSE?

"East wind, rain."

-- Japanese secret message indicating war with the United States imminent.



ROY THOMAS * RICK HOBERG * BILL COLLINS
WRITER/EDITOR PENCILLER INKER

CODY
LETTERER

GENE D'ANGELO
COLORIST

1942—a world at war! And against the forces of Axis darkness, the mightiest heroes of Earth-Two have banded together, under direct orders of the President, as the

ALL-STAR SQUADRON

GIVE ME RESPIRE,
I BESEECH YOU, FROM
THE AGONY OF HOLDING
THEM APART! TAKE THE
WEIGHT, EVEN THE FATE
OF A COSMOS, FROM
MY SHOULDERS--

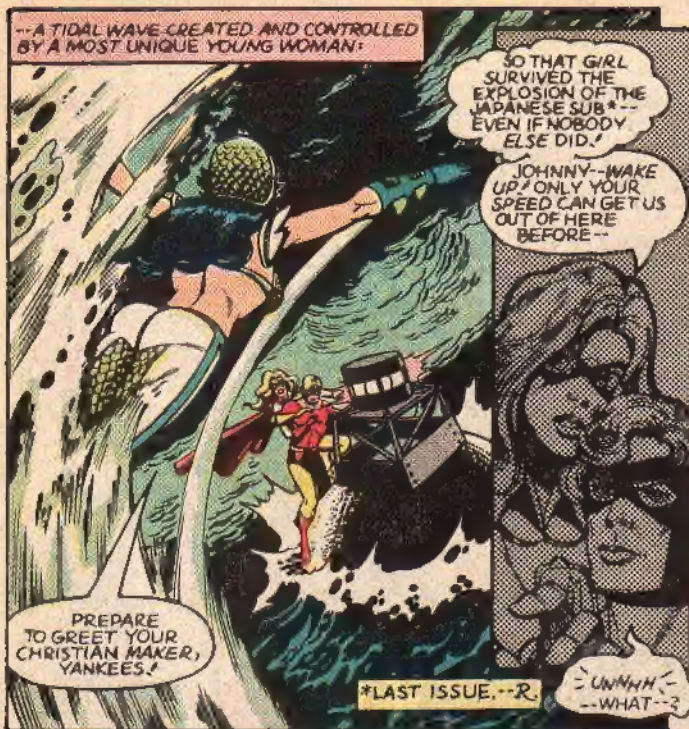
--BEFORE IT BE
TOO LATE, AND THEIR
DREAD IMPACT BRING
DEATH TO UNCOUNTED
MILLIONS!

BUT IF THE DIVINE VOICE WHICH
ONCE GAVE NEW LIFE TO THE
SPECTRE OF MURDERED JIM
CORRIGAN HEARS THE PLEA OF
THE GHOSTLY GUARDIAN--

--IT GIVES
NO SIGN.

AS, JUST OFF THE COAST OF THAT OTHER EARTH'S
CALIFORNIA, LIBERTY BELLE STRUGGLES DESPERATELY
TO KEEP THE UNCONSCIOUS JOHNNY QUICK AND HERSELF
FROM DYING WHEN A FAST-APPROACHING TIDAL WAVE
ROLLS OVER THEM BOTH--

---A TIDAL WAVE CREATED AND CONTROLLED BY A MOST UNIQUE YOUNG WOMAN:



SO THAT GIRL SURVIVED THE EXPLOSION OF THE JAPANESE SUB*--- EVEN IF NOBODY ELSE DID!

JOHNNY--WAKE UP! ONLY YOUR SPEED CAN GET US OUT OF HERE BEFORE--

PREPARE TO GREET YOUR CHRISTIAN MAKER, YANKEES!

*LAST ISSUE--R

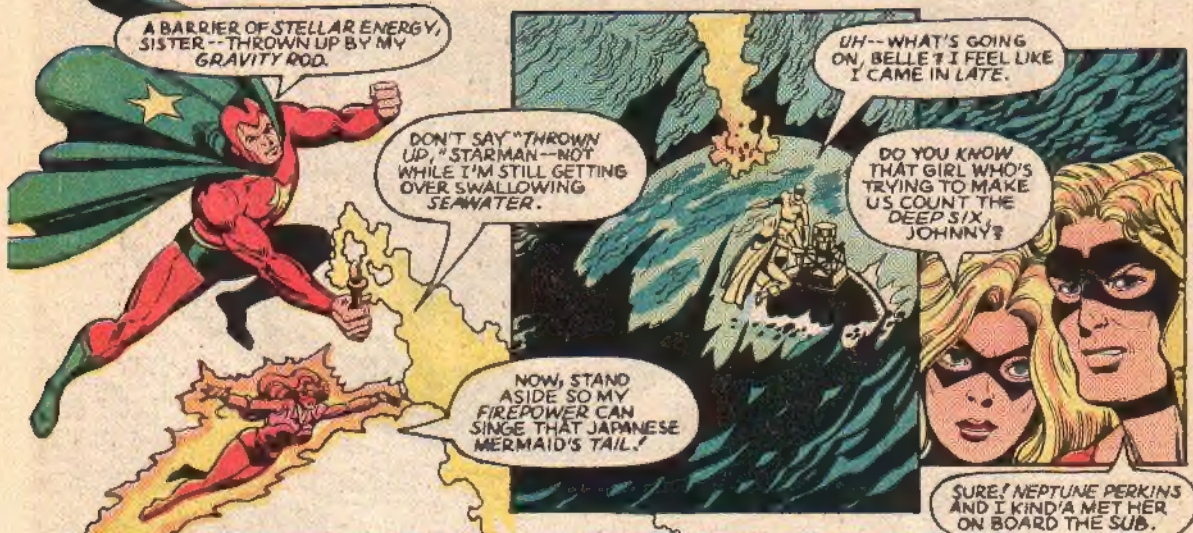
UNNNH--
--WHAT--?



I SORT-OF RESENT THAT, BELLE!

SLAMM!

BY THE EMPEROR! BOTH MY WAVE AND I HAVE STRUCK-- SOME GLOWING BARRIER!



A BARRIER OF STELLAR ENERGY, SISTER--THROWN UP BY MY GRAVITY ROD.

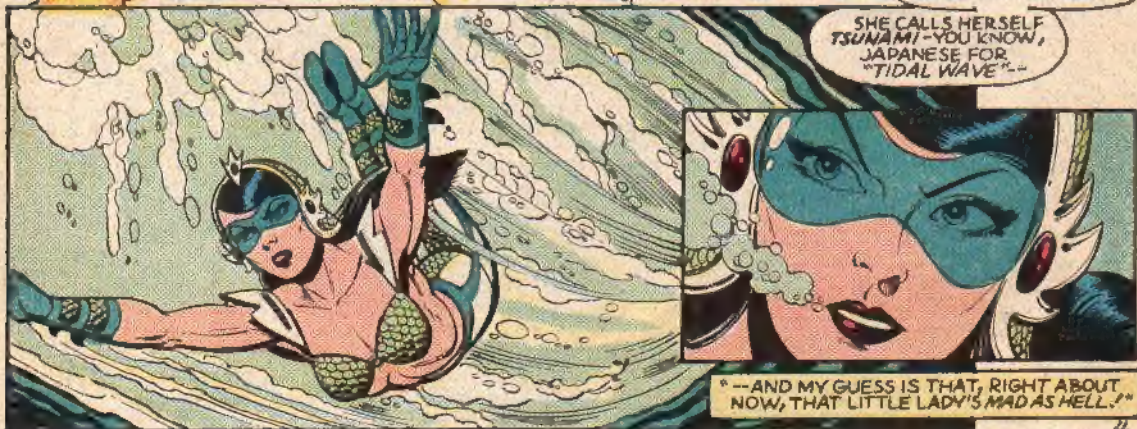
DON'T SAY "THROWN UP," STARMAN--NOT WHILE I'M STILL GETTING OVER SWALLOWING SEAWATER.

UH-- WHAT'S GOING ON, BELLE? I FEEL LIKE I CAME IN LATE.

DO YOU KNOW THAT GIRL WHO'S TRYING TO MAKE US COUNT THE DEEP SIX, JOHNNY?

NOW, STAND ASIDE SO MY FIREPOWER CAN SINGE THAT JAPANESE MERMAID'S TAIL!

SURE! NEPTUNE PERKINS AND I KIND'A MET HER ON BOARD THE SUB.



SHE CALLS HERSELF TSUNAMI--YOU KNOW, JAPANESE FOR "TIDAL WAVE"--

*--AND MY GUESS IS THAT, RIGHT ABOUT NOW, THAT LITTLE LADY'S MAD AS HELL!--

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

FUN FOR EVERYONE!

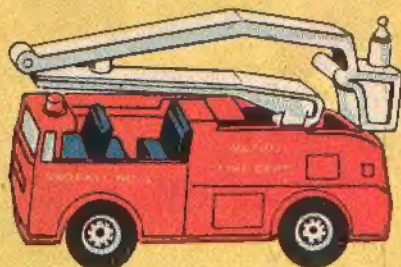
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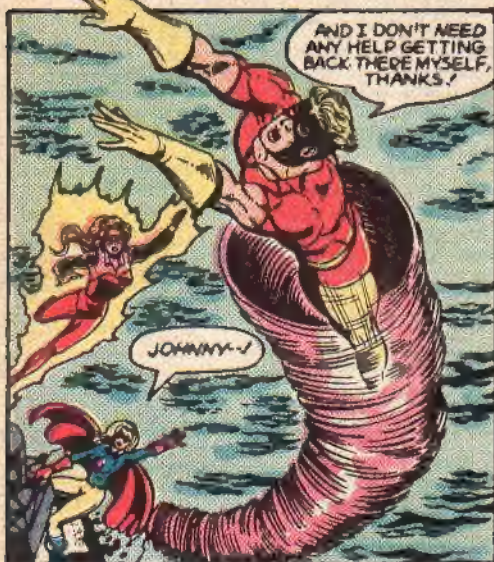
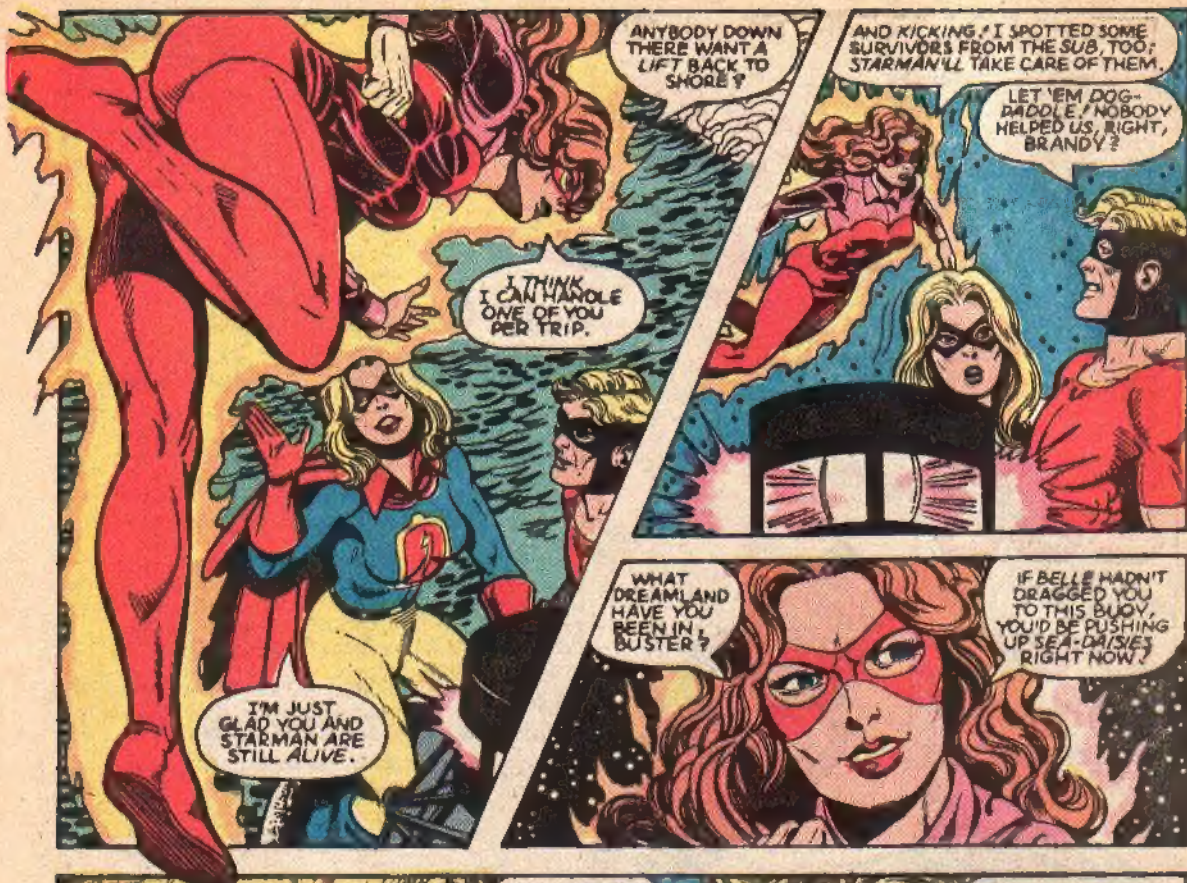
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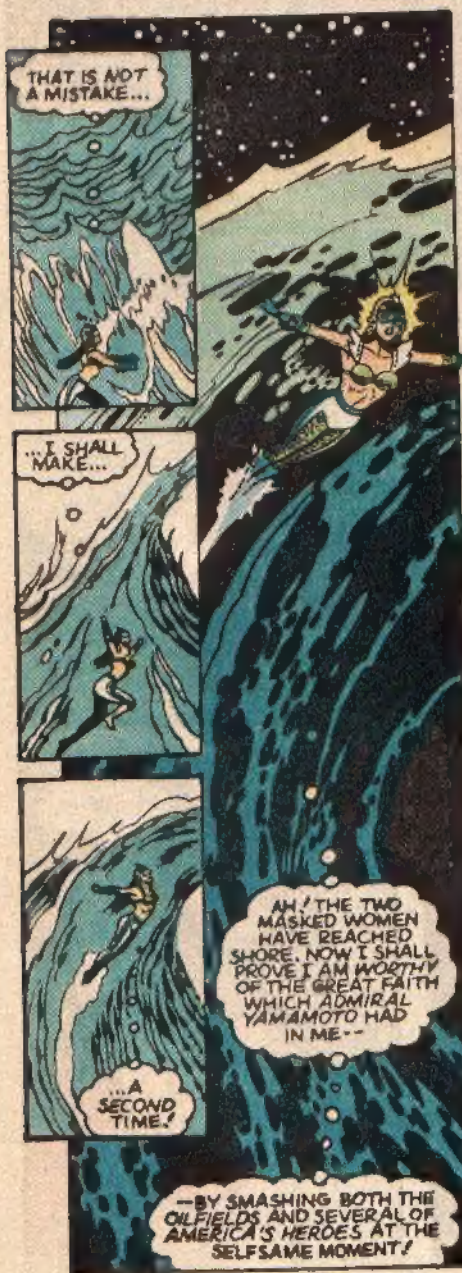


YOU'D ONLY HAVE TO LOOK A FEW FATHOMS STRAIGHT DOWN, LIBERTY BELLE!

I AM DISHONORED! I WAS A FOOL!

IF I HAD CAUSED A MIGHTIER WAVE TO FORM, PERHAPS THAT WALL OF ENERGY WOULD HAVE GIVEN WAY BEFORE IT.

I SHOULD HAVE USED MY FULL MENTAL POWER-- NOT ONLY A FRACTION OF IT!



THAT IS NOT A MISTAKE...

...I SHALL MAKE...

...A SECOND TIME!

--BY SMASHING BOTH THE OILFIELDS AND SEVERAL OF AMERICA'S HEROES AT THE SELF-SAME MOMENT!



OH MY GOD-- LOOK!

THAT HUGE WAVE JUST APPEARED OUT OF NOWHERE--AND IT'S HEADED STRAIGHT FOR US!

AT THAT INSTANT:

WHAT-?

SOMEONE HAS GRABBED ME-- FROM INSIDE MY WAVE!



YOU'VE NEPTUNE PERKINS!

I AM HAPPY YOU REMEMBER ME, TSUNAMI.

OUR MEETING ABOARD THE SUBMARINE WAS RATHER BRIEF.



NOT HALF SO BRIEF AS THIS ONE SHALL BE, YANKEE!

NEPTUNE PERKINS IS A MOST EXCEPTIONAL HUMAN BEING--R

--BORN WITH PHYSICAL DEFICIENCIES WHICH FORCED HIM EARLY TO AN AMPHIBIOUS LIFE--

--YET WITH ABILITIES WHICH ENABLED HIM TO ADAPT SUPERBLY TO THE SEA, MAKING HIM IN EFFECT A HUMAN DOLPHIN.

*SEE ISSUE #33--R

--SOMETHING NEITHER DOLPHINS NOR NEPTUNE PERKINS CAN DO?

ONLY ONE PROBLEM--

PERHAPS WE SHOULD HAVE REVEALED BEFORE THAT TSUNAMI HAS SOMEHOW ACQUIRED THE ABILITY TO BREATHE UNDER WATER--

ASHORE, AS THE SELF-GENERATED WAVE UNEXPECTEDLY SUBSIDES...

RICK, THANK THE LORD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!

NEVER BETTER, BELLE! FIREBRAND AND STARMAN RESCUED ME FROM TSUNAMI BACK IN SANTA BARBARA-- AND I HITCHED A RIDE HERE.

I'LL LEAVE YOU TWO ALONE TO SORT THINGS OUT--

--WHILE I CHECK HOW STARMAN'S MAKING OUT WITH THOSE JAPANESE SAILORS.

BELLE, DARLING, I'M SO--

H-HOLD IT, RICK! THIS IS NO TIME FOR SPOONING.

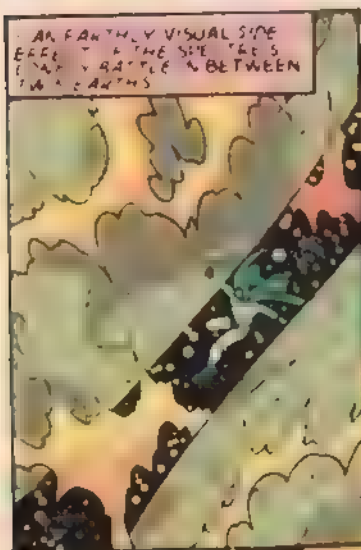
HUH? BUT I THOUGHT WE TWO WERE--

AN ITEM? MATTER OF FACT, SO DID I, BUT NOW I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT--

--ANYTHING.



EVEN AS BELLE SPEAKS, IT'S AS IF THE VERY HEAVENS ARE UNRAVELING. HER EYES ARE STRUCK EYES.



FOR THOUGH HE HAS CALLED HIMSELF A "FANTASTIC POWER" -

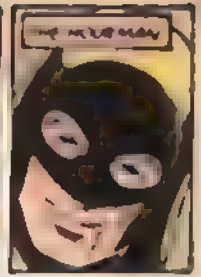
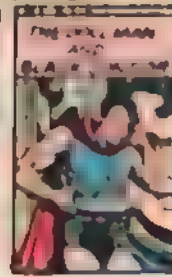
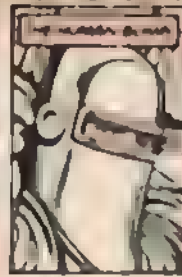
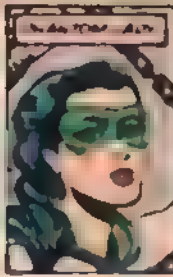
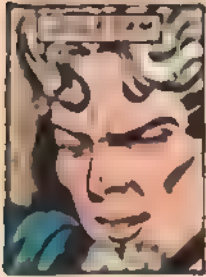
AND WHEN HE CAN BE MORE AS GARDIAN CAN A GIGANTIC AN AS MYSTICAL POWER AS ALL THE SORCERERS WHO EVER LIVED ON GOD'S GREEN EARTH

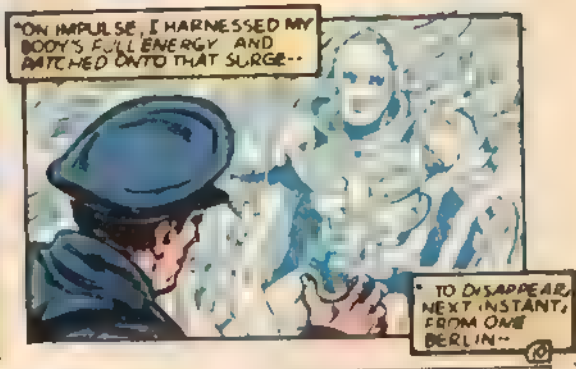
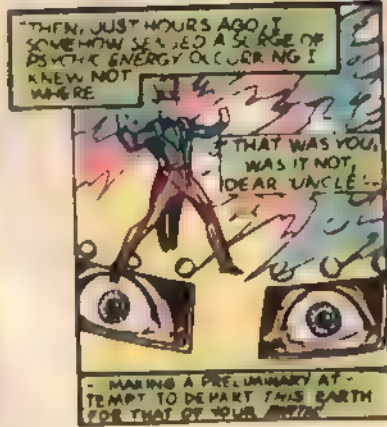
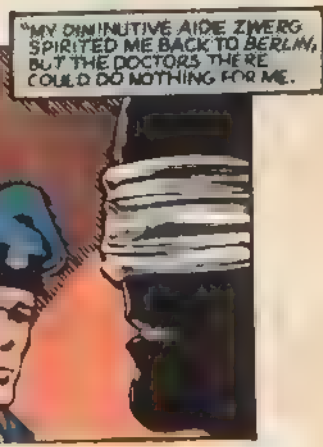
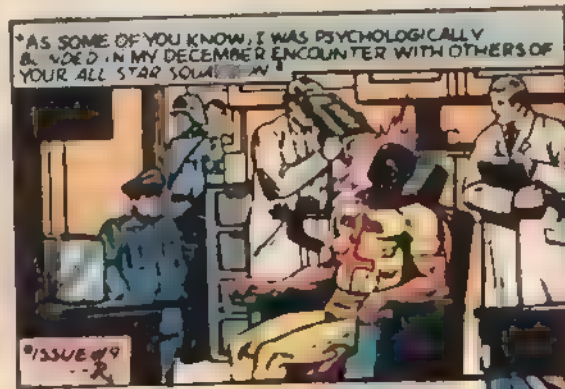
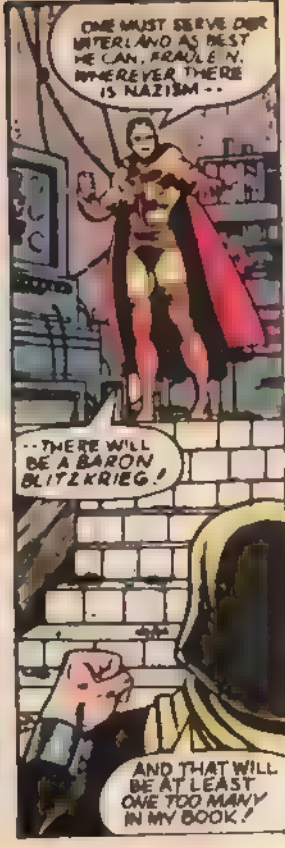
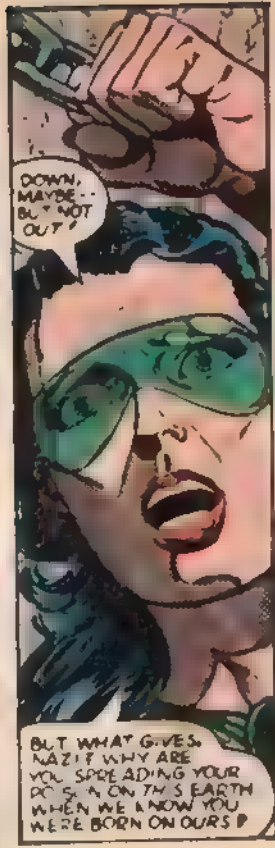
-THE TWO WORLDS ARE STILL MINGLING STEADILY AND RAPIDLY CLASHING TOGETHER. IT IS A MENT WITH THEY SHALL SEEK AGAINST ALL NATURAL LAW AT THE SAME PHYSICAL SPACE

AND SHALL DESTROY EACH OTHER - PERHAPS A LITTLE

IRONICALLY, ONLY IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS THE MAN HAS SENSED WHAT HAVE CAUSED THIS ALL. HE HAS BEEN TOLD BY THE GODS THAT HE MAY SAVE THE WORLD

AND IT TURNS OUT THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING HE HIMSELF CAN DO ABOUT IT





CONTINUED ON THE PAGE FOLLOWING

CROSS SWORDS WITH CHAMPIONS!

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STORES!

THE SAVING PLACE

THAT OF COURSE WAS YOU, HOUZEMAN--WHO HAD SOMEHOW SURVIVED THE EXPLOSION WHICH KILLED YOUR FELLOW MASKED MEN LAST DECEMBER 7TH.

THE JAPANESE HAD HOPED TO LEARN FROM YOU THE SECRET OF THESE MIRACLO PILLS WHICH GIVE YOU HOUR LONG BURSTS OF ENERGY--THOUGH TO DATE YOU HAD RESISTED ALL EFFORTS TO MAKE YOU TALK.

THEY HOPED THE SIGHT OF YOUR HOME AND UNDER ATTACK WOULD CHANGE YOUR MIND.



I, HOWEVER HAVE EVEN MORE EFFECTIVE WAYS OF LOOSENING YOUR TONGUE



*ALSO ISSUE #732 --Rov

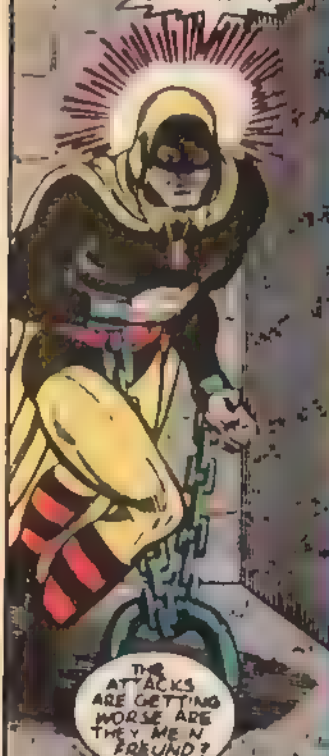
YOU'RE MAD AS A HATTER, BLITZKREIG! EVEN I'D GIVEN UP USING MIRACLO MONTHS AGO



SURE I TOOK ONE LAST PILL TO HELP PUCKLE SAM INTERCEPT TO JO'S PLANES HEADED FOR PEARL HARBOR--

--BUT I ALREADY TOLD YOU, I ALTERED THE MIRACLO FORMULA MONTHS AGO, SO IT WON'T WORK ON ANY METABOLISM BUT MINE, SO--

--UMMM--

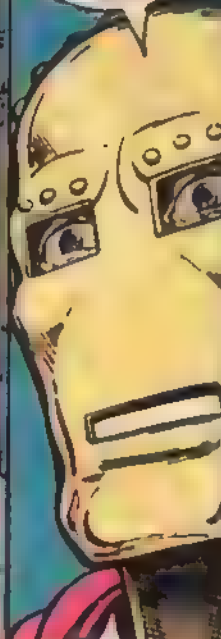


THE ATTACKS ARE GETTING WORSE ARE THEY MEN FREUND?

JAWOW!! I HAVE STUDIED YOU FROM AFAR SINCE FIRST CERTAIN EXPERIMENTS OF THE RESEARCH SCIENTISTS MADE ME THE UBERMENCH I NOW AM!

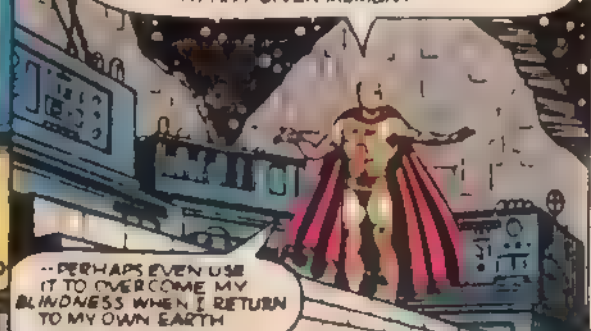
"OVER-MAN" OR "SUPER-MAN": --R.

I KNOW THAT BY USE OF YOUR PRECIOUS PILLS OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS YOU HAVE BECOME WHAT I SHALL CALL FOR LACK OF A BETTER TERM... A MIRACLO ADDICT.



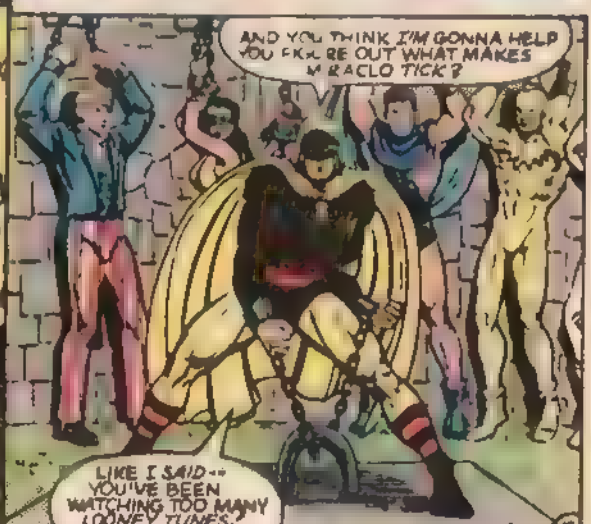
EVER SINCE YOUR CAPTURE, YOU HAVE BEEN SUFFERING A TYPICAL SYMPTOM

BUT I SHALL IMPROVE UPON YOUR FORMULA-- ADD MIRACLO'S SECRETS TO MY PRESENT ABILITY TO CALL UPON MY BODY'S FULL STORE OF ENERGY AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT--

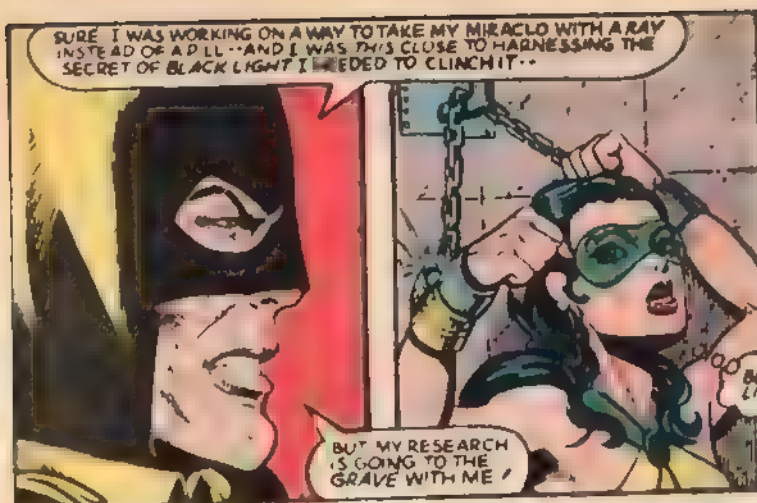


--PERHAPS EVEN USE IT TO OVERCOME MY BLINDNESS WHEN I RETURN TO MY OWN EARTH

AND YOU THINK I'M GONNA HELP YOU FKA RE OUT WHAT MAKES MIRACLO TICK?



LIKE I SAID-- YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING TOO MANY LOONEY TUNES.



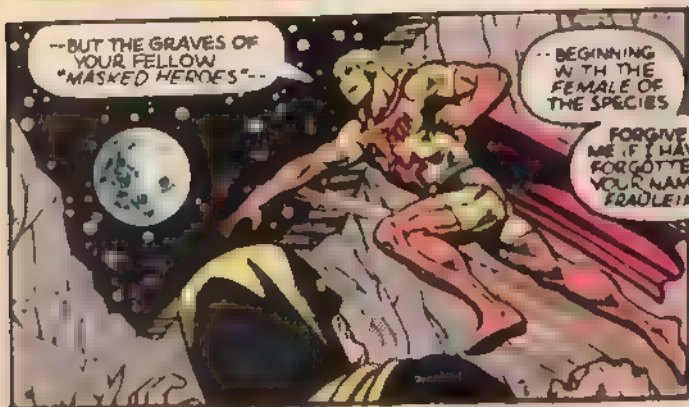
SURE I WAS WORKING ON A WAY TO TAKE MY MIRACLO WITH A RAY INSTEAD OF A PILL--AND I WAS THIS CLOSE TO HARNESSING THE SECRET OF BLACK LIGHT I NEEDED TO CLINCH IT--

BUT MY RESEARCH IS GOING TO THE GRAVE WITH ME!



YOU UNDERESTIMATE MY RESOURCES, AMERIKANER. IT IS NOT YOUR GRAVE WHICH SHALL BE OUG TONIGHT, IF YOU DO NOT REVEAL YOUR SECRETS--

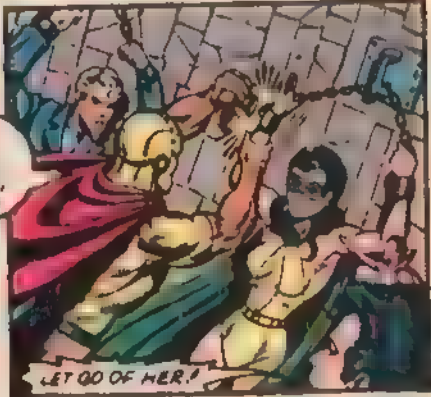
BLACK LIGHT??



--BUT THE GRAVES OF YOUR FELLOW "MASKED HEROES"--

--BEGINNING WITH THE FEMALE OF THE SPECIES

FORGIVE ME IF I HAVE FORGOTTEN YOUR NAME, FRAULEIN!



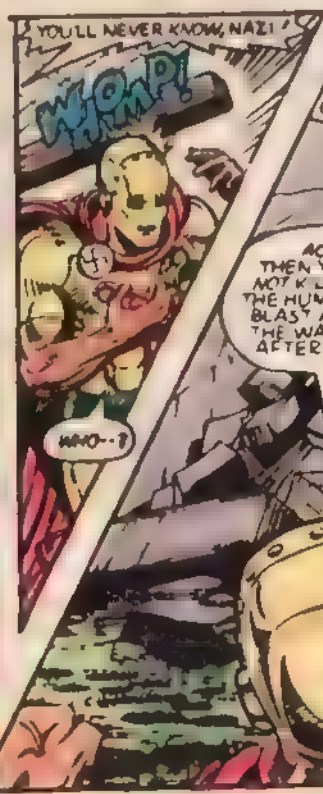
LET GO OF HER!



WAIT! I'LL BE A FOOL HOURMAN, YOU MENTIONED BLACK LIGHT BEFORE AND EARLIER, ON THE DESTROYER SHE USED THIS DEVICE TO BLIND MEN--WITH SOME SORT OF DARK RAY

COULD IT BE??

LAST ISSUE - R



YOU'LL NEVER KNOW, NAZI!

WHOMP!

WHO--?



DON'T MUCH BLAME YOU FOR FIGURING I'M BENEATH YOUR NOTICE BARON. BUT THAT'S NOT GOING TO STOP THE RED BEE FROM PLAYING A TATTOO ON YOUR ARMORED SKULL!

ACH! THEN YOU WERE NOT KILLED BY THE HUMAN BOMB'S BLAST ABOARD THE WARSHIP AFTER ALL??

RIGHT! AND OBVIOUSLY I'M NOT EXACTLY THE WORLD'S WORST SWIMMER, EITHER!

END OF PART 1

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THE FIRST ALL-STAR DIES!

BY ROY THOMAS,
RICK HOBERG &
BILL COLLINS

THE ACTION-PACKED
CONCLUSION TO THE ORIGIN
OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS--
AND A DEADLY CHOICE IS
MADE BY THE SPECTRE!



**A SUPER-VILLAIN HE CAN
CALL HIS OWN!**

BY GARY COHN,
DAN MISHKIN,
PARIS CULLINS &
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HE'S TRAPPED IN A SUIT OF
HIS OWN MAKING--AND
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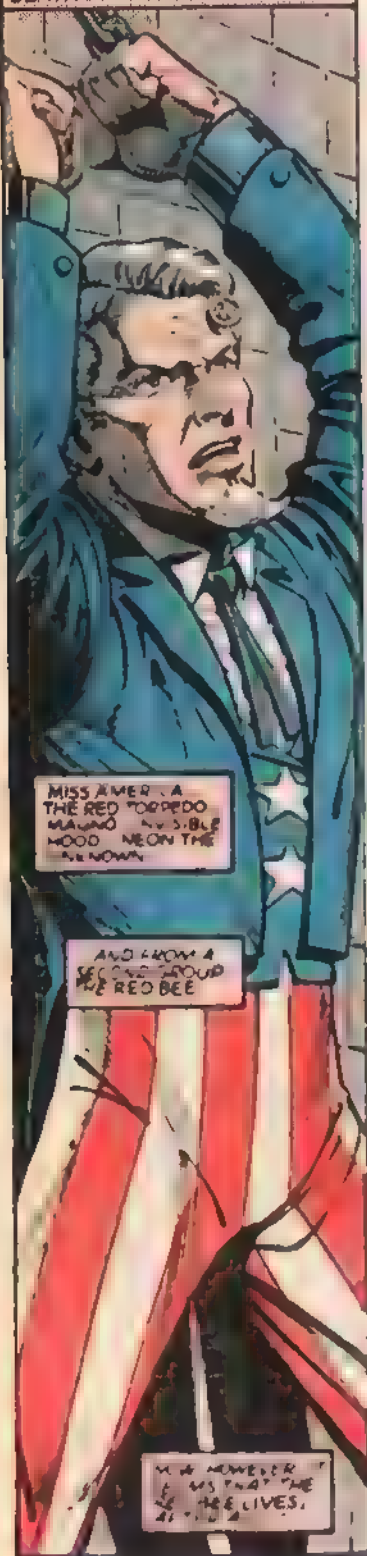
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NO STOPPING US NOW!

EVER SINCE AWAKENING, UNCLE SAM HAS SAID NOTHING--MERELY BROODDED, HOPELESSLY, OF HOW IN SWIMMING HEROES FROM ONE EARTH TO ANOTHER, HE HAS CAUSED ONE DEATH AFTER ANOTHER.



MISS AMERICA THE RED TORPEDO MAINTAINS A SILENT MOOD NEON THE UNKNOWN

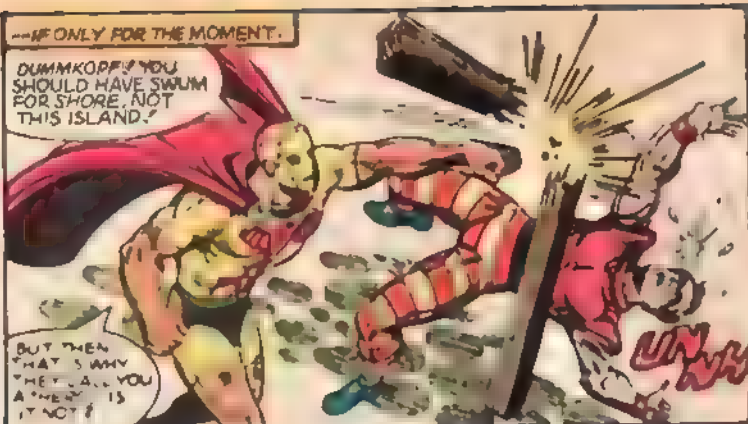
AND FROM A SECOND GROUND THE RED BEE

HE KNOWS THAT THE LIVES.

--IF ONLY FOR THE MOMENT.

DUMMKOPF YOU SHOULD HAVE SWUM FOR SHORE, NOT THIS ISLAND.

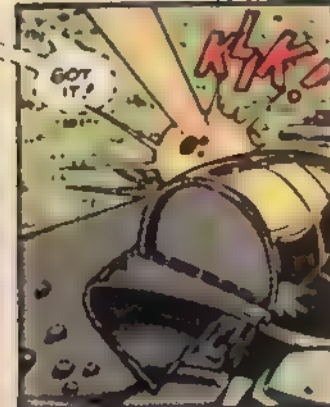
BUT THEN THAT'S WHY THEY CALL YOU A DUMMKOPF IS IT NOT?



I'VE GOT PLANS FOR ONE OF MY RAYBEAMS.



MY AM'S JUST--



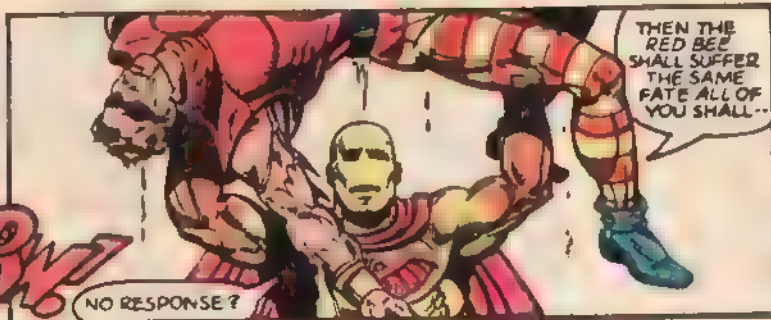
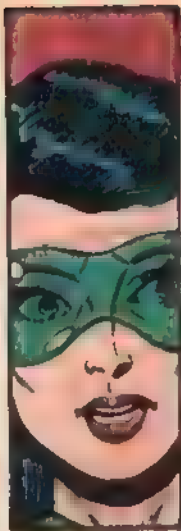
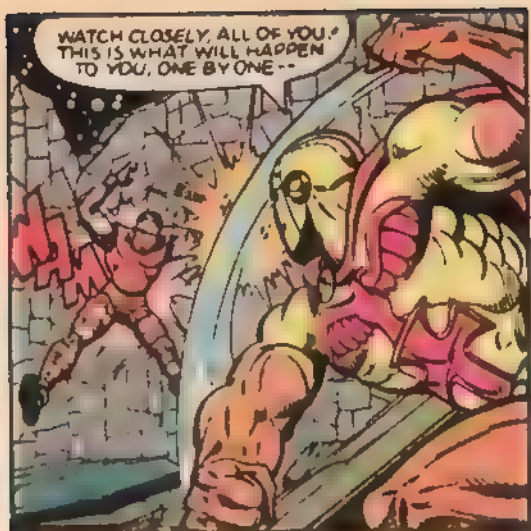
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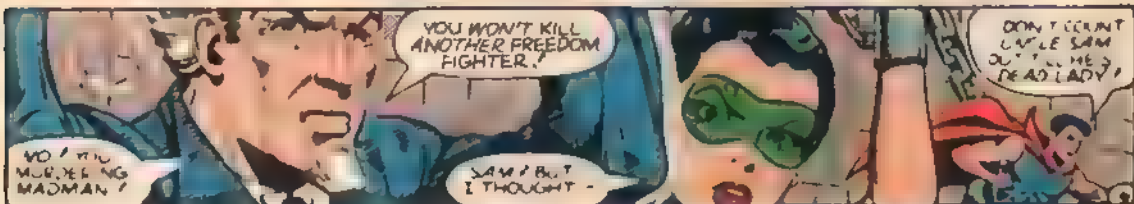
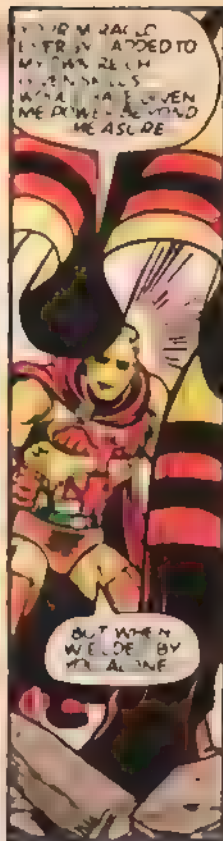


ACTUALLY MANAGED TO ACTIVATE SANDRA'S BLACK LIGHT BRACELET--

--AND NUDGE T SO IT'S PORTED A HOUR MAN.

HUNNY?





[CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING]

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"BARE ANATOMY LESSON"
THE SENSATIONAL TALE WHERE
HE LEARNED THE TRUTH
ABOUT HIMSELF.

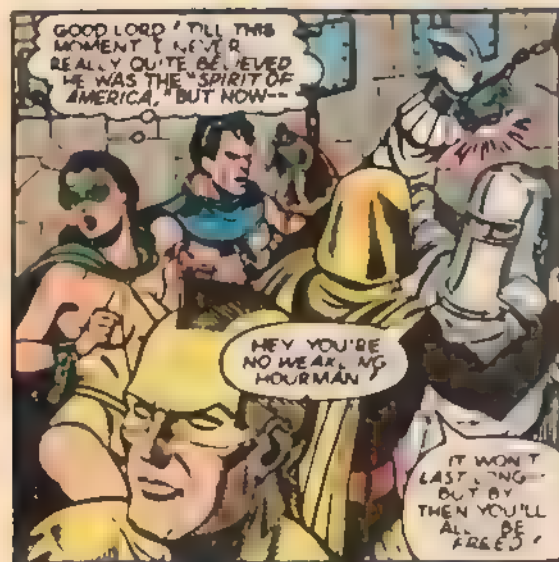
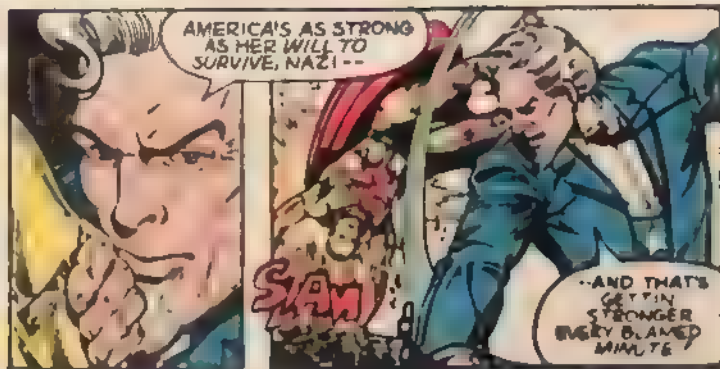
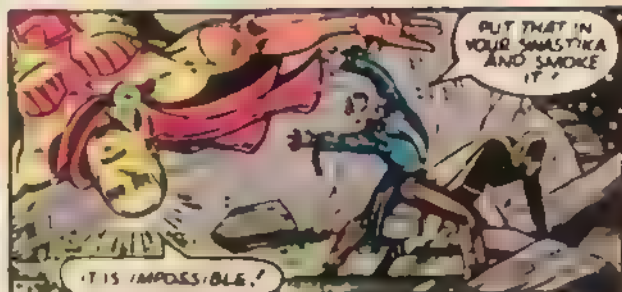
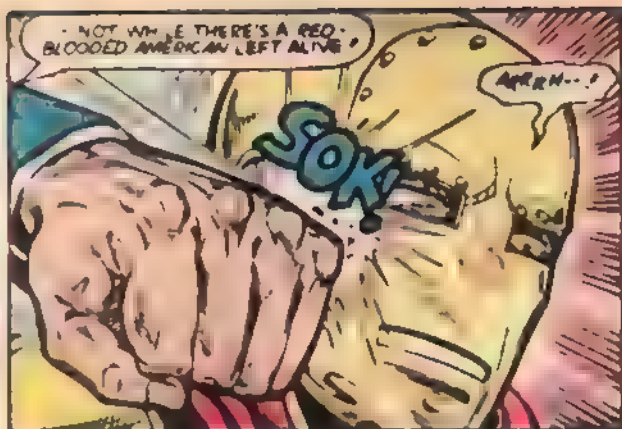
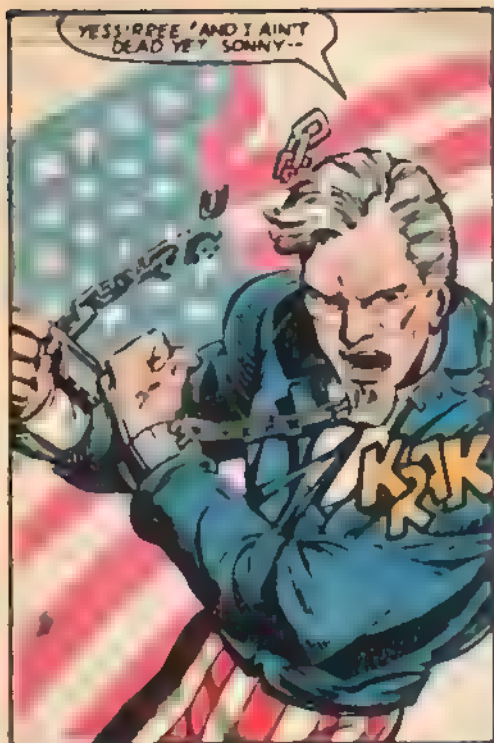
AND HE DOESN'T LIKE IT.
HE DOESN'T LIKE IT AT ALL.

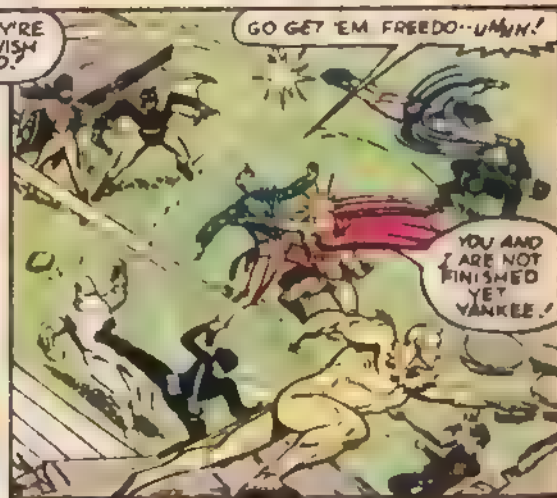
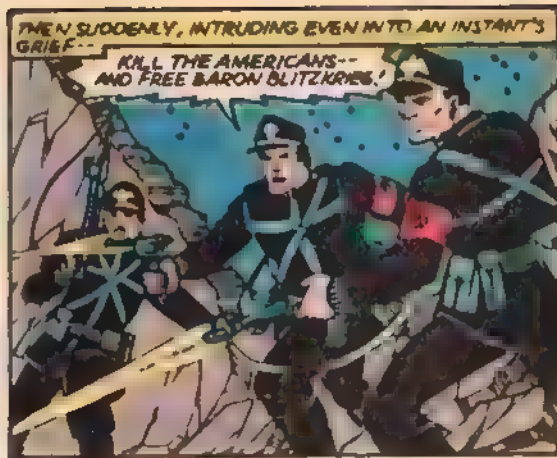
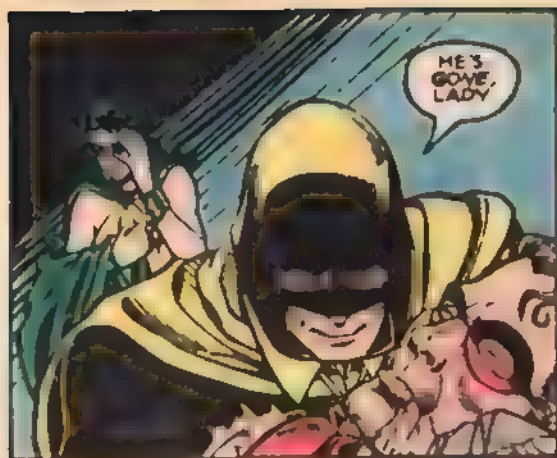
THE SAGA OF THE SWAMP THING

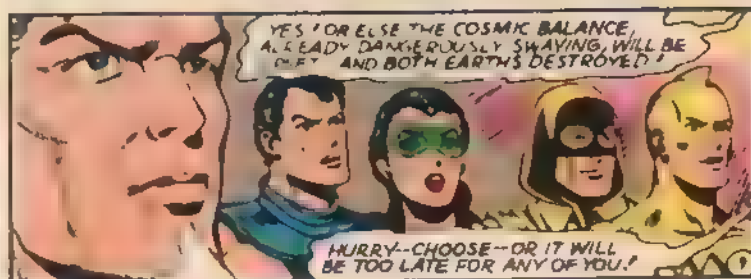
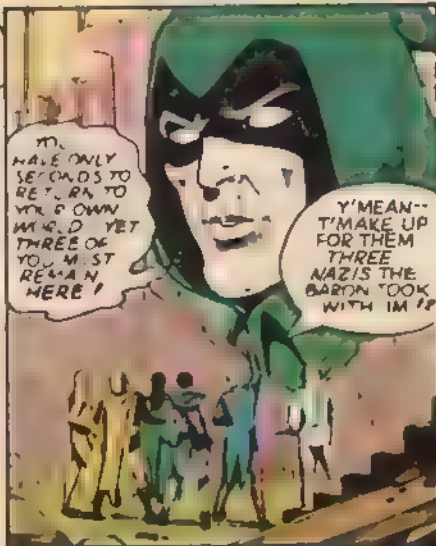
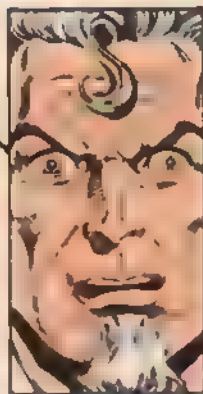
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THE VOICES RING OUT ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY

I'M STAYIN'-- SINCE YOU CAN GO, OF THESE OTHERS, BACK SPECTRE!

I WAS GLAD TO COME HERE-- SO I SHOULD BE ONE OF THOSE TO STAY!

I'VE GOT NOBODY BACK THERE--JUST A FAKE LIFE AS A DEAD SENATOR--

--SO THIS AMERICA'S AS WORTH FIGHTING FOR AS ANY, TO THE BLACK CONDOR!

HOLD IT! YOU GUYS AREN'T PLAYING NOBLER THAN THOU ON THE MI MIAN MI MI!

WHAT ABOUT BL TZRIST? DOESN'T SOMEBODY HAVE TO STAY IN HIS PLACE?

NO! HE'S OF THAT WORLD, SO THE COMING BALANCE WILL BE NEARLY MAINTAINED.

BUT WE CAN'T JUST--

YOU'RE GOIN' GAL!

ALL THEM OTHERS-- NOW THE NEED BE DIED TO KEEP TWO WORLDS SAFE, NO SENSE LOS ANY MORE, LES THAN WE NEED TO!

IT IS T ME, UNCLE SAM

OKAY! MY MOTHER'LL PROTECT YOU ALL, WHILE THE SPECTRE

LISTEN TO ME, SAM!

WE'RE GOING, FOR NOW-- BUT WE'LL BE BACK, ANY TIME YOU!

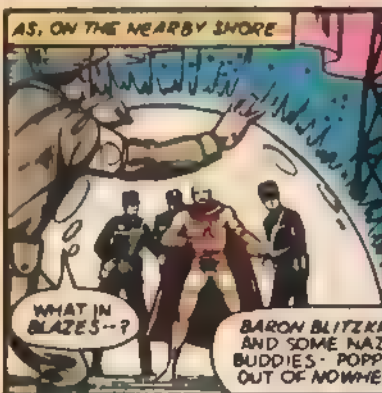
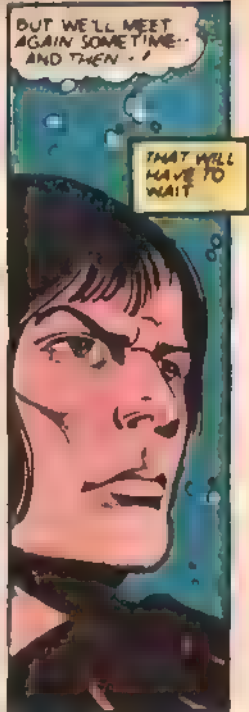
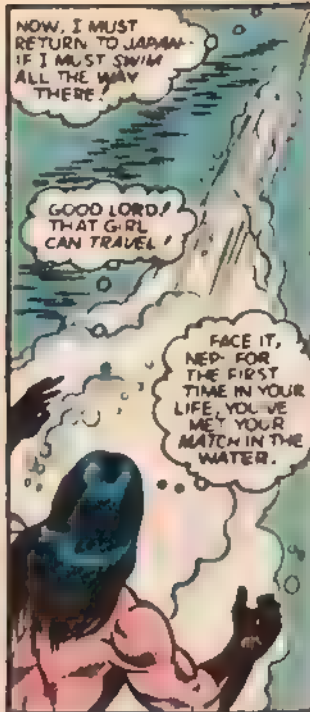
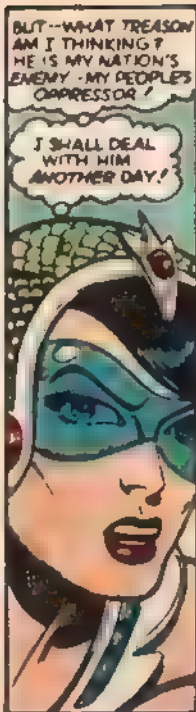
SAY GOOD-BYE TO--

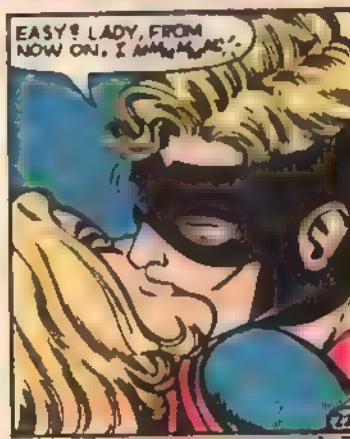
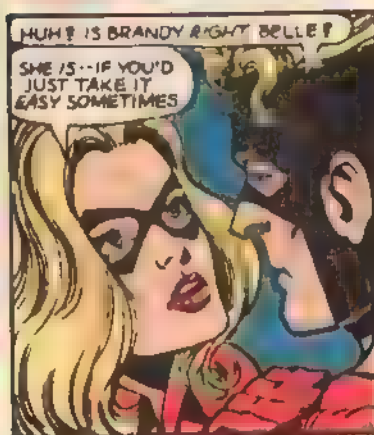
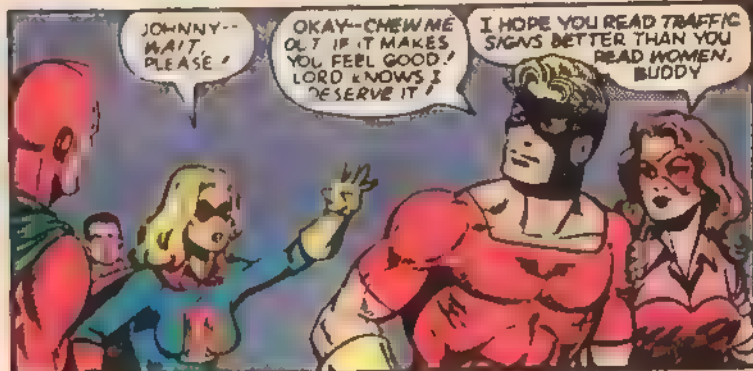
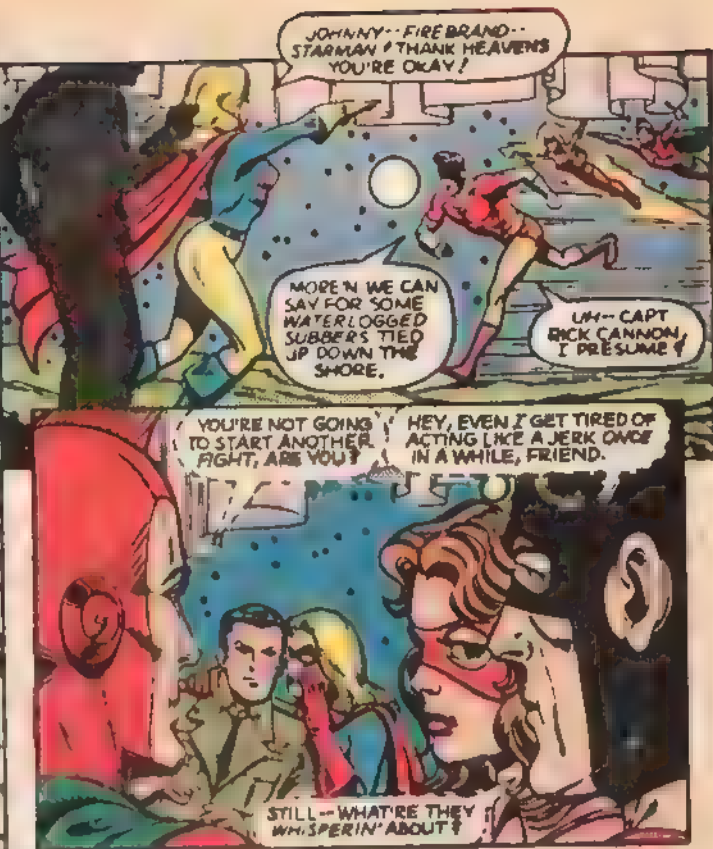
SHE CAN'T HEAR YOU CONDOR NOW, THEN JAPANESE OUT THERE ARE SCOOTIN' BACK TOWARD HOME.

WHAT SAY WE GIVE 'EM A RIGHT ROUSIN' SEND-OFF--

--AS THE **FREEDOM FIGHTERS!**

AND THEY DO





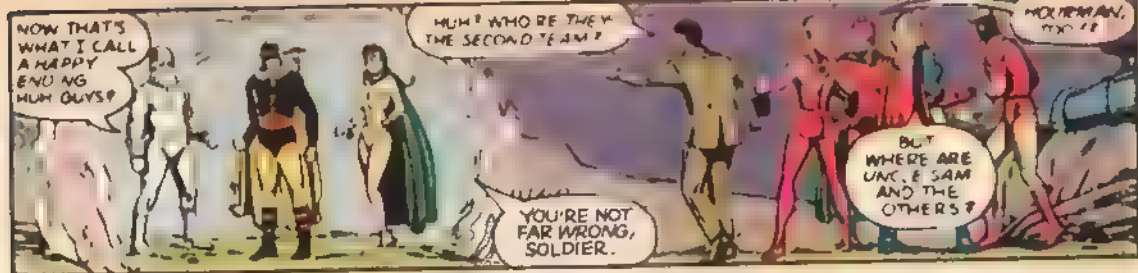
THE MINI-SERIES THAT SHAKES THE COSMOS!



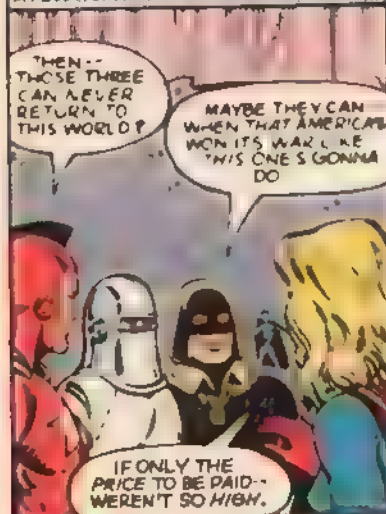
By Jack Kirby, Jerry Ordway, Brian Bolland and Pablo Marcos!
THE NEW DC THING'S MOVIE COMING OUT NOW!

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A FEW HURRIED EXPLANATIONS, AND--



BUT AT LEAST IT WORKED THE SKY'S TURNING NORMAL AGAIN!



NEXT ISSUE:
THE FIRST--THE FOREMOST--THE ORIGINAL
CAPTAIN MARVEL!



DC Comics Inc.
805 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10108

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Bruce Bantow, Marketing Director
Arthur Guitierrez, Treasurer

Dear Guys,

As usual, you provided me with still another excellent issue of ALL-STAR SQUADRON. Thank! I myself am glad the Black Dragon Society was only featured in one issue. That leaves you dudes a lot of room for even greater stories. (And besides, my prayers will soon be answered when the Earth-Two Teen Titans, INFINITY, INC., debut in their own magazine.)

Thank heaven you guys finally let Liberty Belle tell the truth about Wonder Woman's being one of the most powerful All-Stars, but it's the honest-to-God truth! I have loved Wonder Woman ever since I was a little kid...and it's about time somebody told the truth about her.

Hope that, when Rick Hoberg takes over, you keep him as your all-time penciller. He does the best art I've seen (in the JUSTICE LEAGUE ANNUAL, for instance) since Jerry Ordway and George Pérez. And that will leave Jerry free to do great things with INFINITY, INC. I in fact, I'm sending in my subscription for the latter right now.

Good luck on the JUSTICE SOCIETY mini-series this summer, too.

Jason Carr
307 Veebinder Dr
Chesterfield, IN 46017

Thanks, Jason. We're looking forward to it like virtually no project we've ever written. You'll get Rafael Khyanan on the JSA MINI-SERIES, Jerry Ordway and Mike Mechlen on INFINITY, INC., and Rick Hoberg on ALL-STAR SQUADRON. That makes you lucky—and it makes me even luckier, since I get to dialogue all that fabulous artwork!

Good idea to take out a subscription to INFINITY, too—since it's sold only in direct-sale outlets (comics stores and the like), and not on regular newsstands. If you're missing issues, go back a few months and clip out a sub ad from a back issue of ALL-STAR. You won't regret it—if you're any kind of fan of Earth-Two, the Justice Society, Jerry Ordway, or any of the above!

—R.T.

Dear Roy

After two magnificent issues explaining how Dr. Fate lost the Helmet of Nabu, what a shame Jerry's use of it on the cover of #30 managed to slip through. Perhaps it was the ancient giant wizard Nabu exercising his will on Fate one last time, before leaving this dimension to tumble through infinity

with Kullak. (Just because Fate doesn't get it back for twenty years, does that necessarily mean it won't be sighted by others? The twists of dimensions are strange things.)

The basis of heroic behavior is Fair Play. How far off is Mr. Terrific? He caught a raw deal on Earth-One with the Justice League. Personally, I am a fan of the "any character killed off can be written back to life" school. For cryin' out loud, nobody's yet explained how the Spectre got out of Denny O'Neil's vault, and that was probably ten years ago. And the Spectre has seen plenty of Earth-One use since then. So no one's ever gonna convince me that Mr. Terrific is gone. Heck, the poor guy never even had his character developed.

Jim Plonck
P.O. Box 139
Ellenwood, NY 12428

Afraid we're of the school that says, "When they're dead, let 'em stay dead if you possibly can." Still, you're right, Jim—Mr. Terrific was killed off a wee bit perfunctorily. Luckily, as you saw in issue #31, he's "still" around in 1942—and maybe we'll come up with a storyline one of these days that he'd be perfect for. We'll admit in advance, though, our preference in general for using characters with true super-powers rather than simply masks and costumes.

As for the Spectre business you mention—well, Jerry Ordway and I have discussed with editorial VP Dick Giordano the possibility of a graphic novel starring the Spectre, one of these fine days, and that's the place where you're likely to see a lot of those loose story points cleared up.

On the Dr. Fate thing I noticed as soon as I saw Jerry's luscious cover for ALL-STAR SQUADRON #30 that Fate was wearing the wrong helmet, the truncated one. There was even time to have it changed—but Jerry had drawn the cover on a type of illustration paper which makes it difficult to do corrections. Besides, it looked so good. Talked it over with him and we both said, "Oh, what the heck—everybody'd probably like to see him in his full helmet one last time in ALL-STAR anyway, so let's just leave it and we'll explain it later on the letters page."

And that's what I've just done. Hope it didn't spoil your enjoyment of the issue.

—R.T.

Dear Roy

This will certainly come too late for publication (U.S. distribution being as far behind U.K. release dates as it is), but I felt that I had to write regarding Richard Howell's two-issue stint (#27-28) as ALL-STAR SQUADRON penciller. I'd have been hard-put to think of a more appropriate choice for the book, and I sincerely hope to see at least more "guest shots" by him. And next time ALL-STAR's regular penciller drops out, you could do worse than give Rich a try at the book on a regular basis.

Howard W. Stangroom
10 Geneva Drive, Redcar
Cleveland TS10 1JP
England

We certainly could, Howard. Fortunately, on the basis of those two ALL-STARs you mention (plus half of #30, as well), it looks as if he'll be doing even more work for DC in the future. Keep watching!

—R.T.

Dear Roy,

There's something I don't understand: In ALL-STAR SQUADRON #30 you re-presented the JSA's adventure with the Black Dragon Society, and in that old ALL-STAR comic evidently all that Wonder Woman did was sit around the Justice Society headquarters, doing nothing. In fact, in all the old JSA stories I've seen, that's all she does. Why is that? That's like letting Superman stay and clean up the Periscope while the All-Stars do their thing. I mean, why not just hire a real secretary and ask her to respect the JSA's secrecy?

Delmo Walters Jr.
1396 Grand Concourse
Bronx, NY 10462

There was a bit more to it than that, Delmo. You see, when Wonder Woman first became a JSAer in 1942, there was a standing rule that any JSA member with his/her own comic book would only be an honorary member, as Superman, Batman, the Flash, and Green Lantern already were. But the editors at DC wanted some feature from their new magazine SENSATION COMICS in the Justice Society—and Wonder Woman was far more popular than Wildcat, Mr. Terrific, et al. put together! So she stayed a member—yet, because she was featured in three other regular mags (WONDER WOMAN, SENSATION COMICS, and by 1943 COMIC CAVALCADE), they downplayed her.

This stayed true even after Green Lantern and the Flash became active members again in 1946—until 1948, in fact, when the whole nature of ALL-STAR COMICS changed and the members started teaming up in chapters rather than going on solo adventures.

That's the whole point, in fact, of Liberty Belle's laughter on p. 2 of issue #30—that guys like Dr. Mid-Nite, the Atom, and Sandman would have been fighting spies, while Wonder Woman sat on her bracelets! Times have changed, have they not?

—R.T.

Dear Editors,

Why is it that, every time ALL-STAR SQUADRON features the Justice Society, the Flash is left out? I'm sure many other readers will agree with me that you should feature more, not less, of him.

Now to more positive stuff: ALL-STAR SQUADRON #30 was a great issue, both storywise and artwise. Howell's 40's-like art really captured the mood of the times. I love how you spotlighted the heroes' separate adventures, the way

the old comics did, even if you didn't have room to tell the full story of each JSAer.

The Japanese-American concentration camps, of course, were a sensitive topic. After all, if you'd wanted to, you could have simply said that "the Americans of the 1940's had no hatred for the American Japanese." But your story this month showed many different opinions about the Nisei and Issei, and made me think about how we often let our hatreds overpower our reasoning. Cheers—and thanks!

Melissa Zitowsky
1617 N. Vine
Chicago, IL 60614

Dealing with racial issues that surfaced during World War Two—including both the Japanese-American travesty of justice and other matters which will enter the storyline shortly—has been in our minds since Day One when ALL-STAR SQUADRON was conceived, Melissa. One reason it hasn't been covered sooner is that the public agitation for the detention of Issei and Nisei took a while to build; as you saw, President Roosevelt only signed the order which eventually led to the

infamous internment camps more than two months after Pearl Harbor.

The current storyline involving the Kibei named Tsunami (Japanese for "tidal wave") has been planned for three years, too. As for whether Tsunami herself or "America's concentration camps" will reappear in future issues—given our track record to date with issues raised in the Amazing-Man origin, the Battles of Santa Barbara, and the fight with the Black Dragon Society—what do you think?

As for the reason why the Flash hasn't been featured more prominently in JSA-starring adventures of the All-Stars, the answer is simple: the original scarlet speedster was only an "honorary member" of the JSA from 1941 to 1945, as were Superman, Batman, and Green Lantern. However, now that we've clearly established that by the term "All-Star Squadron" we mean virtually every super-hero of the WWII period, especially those shown in issue #31's first full-roster meeting, he's liable to pop up anytime—and even a showdown-of-speed 'twixt him and Johnny Quick is hardly out of the question. Don't go away!

—Roy Thomas.

NEXT ISSUE:

AND, WHILE YOU'RE WAITING:



MEANWHILE...

I don't know how warm it is where you are today, but the good ol' summertime comes early this year for comics. Comic conventions usually don't start till late June with the really important ones usually slated for July to mid-August. This year they've been moved up so that, for example, the San Diego convention will take place the last weekend in June, and Chicago the first weekend in July. Others are slated from late August on. Why? The Olympics, of course. We're starting our summer early, too—but for a different reason. Summer is the traditional time for publishing Annuals, and in the past we've pretty much honored that tradition, but our schedule for Annuals in 1984 has been expanded (14 Annuals; count 'em, 14). We have two movie specials we're sure you'd like to read and a 48-page **SWORD OF THE ATOM SPECIAL** to round out the list. So much to do—so we're starting earlier this year. Matter of fact, if all went according to plan, the aforementioned **SWORD OF THE ATOM SPECIAL** was released sometime in early April, and the **TEEN TITANS ANNUAL** (#3) should be out right now (on sale April 26th).

A quick look at the following list of annuals and specials will give you a bit of time to plan your summer comics buying. Have fun... and have a good summer.

FIRESTORM ANNUAL

#2 1984 48 Pages Mando
\$1.25 in U.S.A.

Gerry Conway—Writer
Rafael Kayanan—Penciller
Rodin Rodriguez—Inker
Triumph of the 2000 Committee—fate of Firehawk's father, Senator Walter Reilly—and the showdown game between Bradley High and Molloy.
On sale August 23

ALL-STAR SQUADRON ANNUAL

#3 1984 48 Pages Mando
\$1.25 in U.S.A.

Roy Thomas—Writer
Giordano/Hoberg/Pérez/
Nodell/Buckler/Infantino/
Boring/Newton/Howell—Artists
The Justice Society vs. the menace that time forgot.
On sale June 14th

ARAK ANNUAL

#1 1984 48 Pages Mando
\$1.25 in the U.S.A.

Roy Thomas—Writer
Randall/Gonzales/Colón/
Alcala/Forton—Artists
Battle to the death with the Serpent Lord.

On sale July 12th

SGT. ROCK ANNUAL

#4 1984 48 Pages Mando
\$1.25 in the U.S.A.

Cover—J. Kubert
Title—*A Candle in the Wind*
Writer—Kanigher
Artist—Redondo
Sgt. Rock confronts the Iron Major.
On sale May 17th

WARLORD ANNUAL

#3 1984 48 Pages Mando
\$1.25 in the U.S.A.

Cover—Jurgens/DeCarlo
Title—*Full Circle*
Writer—C. Burkett
Pencils—D. Jurgens
Inks—M. DeCarlo
Morgan is thrown back in time to ancient Atlantis. Events taking place in this issue bring this titanic 12-part series to an exciting conclusion.
On sale June 28th

TEEN TITANS ANNUAL

#3 1984 48 Pages Mando
\$1.25 in the U.S.A.

Cover—G. Pérez (Painting)
Title—*Finale*
Writer—M. Wolfman
Pencils—Pérez
Inks—Giordano/DeCarlo
Last chapter of the Terra/Terminator story. Brings to a conclusion the story line started 2 years ago.
On sale April 26th

OMEGA MEN ANNUAL

#1 1984 48 Pages Deluxe format
\$2.00 in the U.S.A.

Cover—Smith/Tanghal
Title—*The Fight for Harpis' Wings*
Writer—D. Moench
Pencils—T. Smith
Inks—R. Tanghal
Harpis wins back her wings.
On sale August 23rd

AMETHYST ANNUAL

#1 1984 48 Pages Mando
\$1.25 in the U.S.A.

Cover—E. Colón

Writers—Mishkin/Cohn

Layouts—Ric Estrada

Finishes—E. Colón

Amy unleashes a terrible danger into the Gemworld and Amethyst must come to the rescue.

On sale June 14th

JLA ANNUAL

#2 1984 48 Pages Mando
\$1.25 in the U.S.A.

Cover—Patton/Giordano
Writer—Gerry Conway
Artist—Chuck Patton
All the new characters and new JLA headquarters will appear for the first time.

On sale July 19th

LEGION ANNUAL

#3 1984 48 Pages Deluxe format
\$2.00 in the U.S.A.

Cover—K. Giffen/L. Mahlstedt
Title—*Mordru is Back!!!*
Writer—Levitz
Artists—Swan/Tanghal
Is Darkseid's curse Mordru's freedom or Saturn Girl's child?
On sale July 5th

BATMAN ANNUAL

#9 1984 48 Pages Mando
\$1.25 in the U.S.A.

Title—*The Four Faces of Batman*
Writer—M. Barr
Artists—to be determined
4 stories by 4 different artists. Each story is about a different facet of Batman's character: Avenger, the detective, the child, the man.
On sale July 26th

SUPERMAN ANNUAL

#10 1984 48 Pages Mando
\$1.25 in the U.S.A.

Cover—Barreto
Title—*The Day the Cheering Stopped*
Writer—Maggin
Pencils—Swan
Inks—Anderson
King Kosmos conjures up a sinister scheme to discredit Superman and thereby gain the adulation of his subjects—the people of Earth.

SUPERGIRL MOVIE SPECIAL

48 Pages Mando
\$1.25 in the U.S.A.

Adaptation—J. Cavalieri
Artist—G. Morrow
On sale July 5th

DC PRESENTS ANNUAL

#3 1984 48 Pages Mando
\$1.25 in the U.S.A.

Title—*With One Magic Word*
Plot—R. Thomas
Dialogue—J. Cavalieri
Artist—G. Kane
The evil Dr. Sivana robs the powers of Shazam and comes to blows with Capt. Marvel and the Golden Age and Modern Day Superman.
On sale June 21st

STAR TREK MOVIE SPECIAL

64 Pages Mando
\$1.50 in the U.S.A.

Adaptation—M. Barr
Pencils—T. Sutton
Inks—Villagran

Thank you and Good Afternoon.

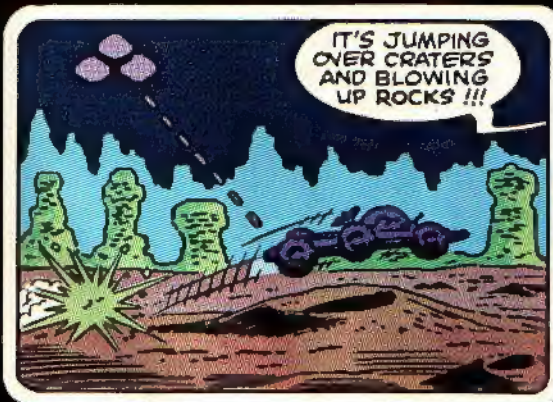
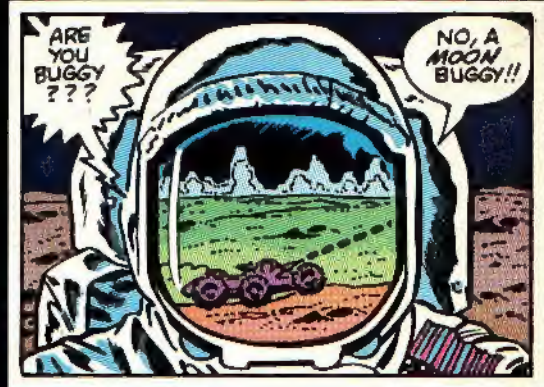
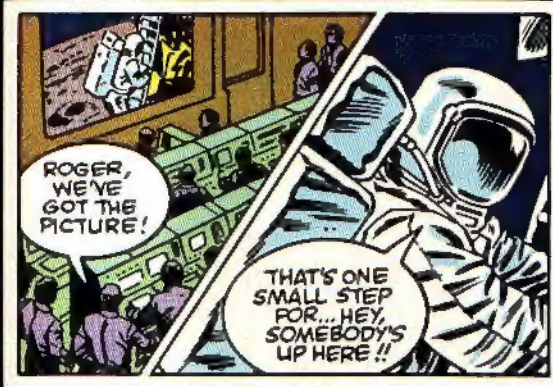
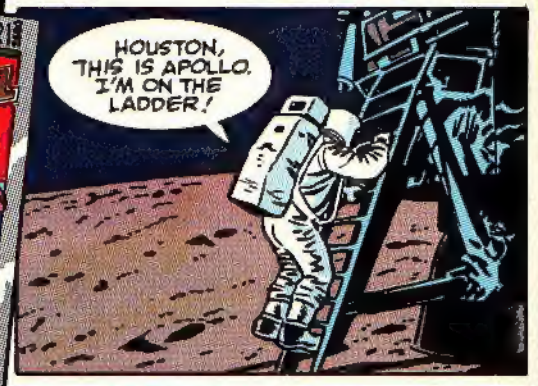
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